





FRANKLY

TIPS, QUIPS, AND BLIPS

What is Frankly? It is where readers sound off on issues of the day. Have a tip, quip or blip? Call Frankly at (269) 687-7702 or email rich.cains@leaderpub.com

We’ve mocked other countries when hearing stories of politicians being locked up by their president. Is that what we are aiming for in the US?

Enough with politics already. We have spent the better part of twenty years hating each other it seems. Stop watching cable news.

God has given us this gift of warm weather lately. Take advantage of it while it is here. Soon we’ll be up to our ears in snow.

ND is going to run the tables in the playoffs.

This turnaround stuff at 51 and 12 is exhausting and confusing. This is not better and seems far more dangerous than before. I don’t need a study to tell me that.

Thank you for the Niles football piece that ran in the newspaper. I think it is wonderful that you covered this team so well. What a great keepsake for us.

I hope the kids get out and want to earn some snow shoveling money.

Please be helpful to those in need this holiday season. Buy a toy for a child or a warm meal for someone who needs it. Many people are really hurting and need a break.

Our downtown businesses need local support from the residents. Many of us struggle during the year and need the holidays to keep the lights on. Please consider stopping in.

WEATHER

SATURDAY



50% Chance Rain Showers  
41° 35°

SUNDAY



70% Chance Rain Showers  
46° 36°

MONDAY



80% Chance Rain Showers  
51° 39°

TUESDAY



Partly Cloudy  
38° 31°

WEDNESDAY



Mostly Cloudy  
39° 28°

THURSDAY



Cloudy  
35° 25°

# AG Nessel Warns Consumers of Puppy Scams During the Holiday Season

## COMMUNITY REPORT

LANSING — Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel is urging consumers to be wary of puppy scams as many people seek to purchase or adopt dogs during the holiday season.

Many people enjoy gifting kittens, puppies, and other pets to loved ones during the holidays, which creates an atmosphere ripe for scammers to exploit. Michigan residents in recent years have been tricked into paying for pets that do not exist or have adopted pets with undisclosed health issues, behavioral complications, or falsified medical records. Attorney General Nessel recently launched an investigation into an unknown individual on the pet adoption website RescueMe.org who is accused of misleading Michigan consumers by allegedly falsifying vaccination records

for an animal sold through the website.

“While the holidays inspire many to bring in the joy with a furry friend, it’s important consumers exercise caution when searching for a new pet,” Nessel said. “Always thoroughly research any online purchase to ensure you are not the latest victim of a scam.”

In addition to the deceptive practices of advertising puppies that do not exist or charging exorbitant fees, scammers are taking advantage of the holiday season as they use it as a reason to avoid in-person visits and demand additional fees.

Attorney General Nessel released a Public Service Announcement in 2022 with tips to help consumers spot and avoid puppy scams. Consumers should remain hyper-vigilant and use these best practices:

- Make sure the person you’re gifting the pet to wants the pet and is ready for ownership.
  - Research the breed and breeder.
  - If the breeder claims to have registered the puppy, research the pet.
  - Do not purchase a puppy sight unseen.
  - Arrange for safe transport of the pet.
  - Use a credit card to make the purchase. If it turns out you have been scammed, it is very unlikely you will ever get your money back if you have paid through cash, check, or through platforms like PayPal and Venmo.
  - Retain all documents and communications from the breeder.
  - Consider contacting your local shelter for adoption.
- Each year, consumers in the U.S. spend more than \$1 billion buying puppies without real-

izing they may be doing business with scammers, puppy mill operators, or both. Puppy mills are inhumane dog breeding operations that keep dogs in overcrowded and unhealthy conditions and, depending on location, many are not regulated or inspected. Breeders hide their poor conditions by meeting buyers at offsite locations or selling through pet stores or online.

To view all the holiday scam alerts, visit the Department of Attorney General’s website. Michigan consumers who believe they have been a victim of a puppy scam can file a complaint with the Attorney General’s Consumer Protection Team:

Consumer Protection Team  
P.O. Box 30213  
Lansing, MI 48909  
517-335-7599  
Fax: 517-241-3771  
Toll-free: 877-765-8388

## PET OF THE WEEK

Meet **Kernal**, a dog with Berrien County Animal Services. Described as a “true velcro dog” by volunteers, Kernal is eager to follow his human from room to room. With a goofy, floppy demeanor and bouncy gait, he will bring smiles into your life. He has mastered the art of relaxation, loving to curl on the couch with you. Kernal enjoys playing with toys or romping with other dogs but content as an only pet. He excels in training sessions and is great with cats, making him a versatile companion. Kernal is neutered, housetrained and current on shots. Call Berrien County Animal Services to arrange a meeting at (269) 927-5648.





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[www.CassCOA.org](http://www.CassCOA.org)  
[facebook.com/CassCOA](https://facebook.com/CassCOA)

# 'A TREASURE FOR EVERYONE'

## Chamber of Commerce welcomes The Treasure Hut to Dowagiac

By **MAXWELL HARDEN**  
max.harden@leaderpub.com

**D**OWAGIAC — A new business is bringing unique finds and bargain items to the Dowagiac community. Thursday, the Greater Dowagiac Chamber of Commerce hosted a ribbon-tying ceremony for The Treasure Hut at 54813 M-51 North, Dowagiac. Open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

seven days per week, the store — owned by Niles residents Mike and Sherry Antisdell — offers items like antiques, housewares, seasonal items, toys, cleaning supplies, décor, basic apparel, health and beauty products and more at discounted prices. The business, which began in a Paw Paw flea market, is currently offering a grand opening sale through Sunday, Dec. 15.

“We’re excited,” Michael said. “I just want it to do good. It’s something I’ve wanted to do something like this for a long time and we just decided that it was time to try it.” The couple opened Treasure Hut in July as a way to offer discounted items to community members trying to make ends meet. “Our daughter, grandkids and son-in-law just moved here,

so we figured we’d bring it to their community,” Sherry said. The Antisdells travel across the region purchasing items from estate sales, storage units and pallets of merchandise from liquidation warehouses and auctions and sell the items at discounted prices. The store features items from nine vendors renting space to sell items and Michael said there is space for more vendors. Michael frequently posts Facebook live updates on new items and sales through the “The Treasure Hut” page on Facebook. “Say we look up something and it values at 50 bucks. We always put it at about 40 percent for what it values at, that way it gives somebody a deal and then we make a little bit and they get a good product for a cheaper price,” Michael said. While the work is often challenging, The Antisdells enjoy being able to help those in need. “My passion is to help people,” Sherry said.



MAXWELL HARDEN | LEADER PUBLICATIONS  
Sherry and Michael Antisdell (left) pose with Matt and Allexia Money during Thursday’s ribbon-tying ceremony.



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# Niles man gets jail time for Lowe’s retail fraud

By **DEBRA HAIGHT**  
Leader Publications Contributor

NILES — Four area residents were sentenced to jail Monday in Berrien County Trial Court at the Niles courthouse.

Steven Paul Hover, 56, of Niles, pleaded guilty to first degree retail fraud and was sentenced to 300 days in jail with credit for 96 days served and \$529.86 in fines, costs and restitution. He can serve the jail sentence in any penal institution.

The incidents occurred in April and May at the Niles Lowe’s store in Niles Township.

While Berrien County Assistant Prosecutor Jerry Vigansky said Hover’s past record speaks for itself, defense attorney Shayne Williams said that Hover’s problems stem from his substance abuse.

Williams said Hover plans to get treatment for his addiction and also wants to go to Lake Michigan College to get training as a machinist. Hover took full responsibility



Hover

for his actions and acknowledged that his record isn’t good.

“I’m 56 years old, I apologize,” he said. “It’s embarrassing to stand here at my age. You won’t see me back here again.”

Berrien County Trial Court Judge Jennifer Smith noted that with 42 previous convictions, she didn’t know why the 43rd conviction should be embarrassing to him. “You were last here in 2023 for larceny in a building,” she said. “You say the court doesn’t know you but you’re a thief, that’s what you do.”

“Now you’re saying you want to get help for your addiction,” she said. “You’ve been on probation and to prison before. Probation is not an option given your record. I will give you credit that you’re not violent, but you continue to commit crimes. The last time you got six months in jail for larceny in a building and you also have pending charges in Indiana.”

“The next step for you will be prison if you come back,” she added. “You need to take a hard look at what you want the rest of your life to look like.”

Hannah Rose Penninger, 38, homeless, pleaded guilty to second offense use of meth and disorderly person and was sentenced to concurrent days of 150 and 90 days in jail. She has credit for 93 days served and must pay \$248.

She also had probation revoked from an earlier use of meth conviction. She was sentenced to a concurrent 150 day jail term with credit for 92 days served.

The most recent incident occurred Sept. 7 in Niles.

Judge Smith noted that Penninger’s past history on probation was not great and said that she needs to be truly interested in getting treatment. “We can do all the probation in the world, but it’s not going to do you any good if you’re not interested in it.”

The judge also pointed out that Penninger didn’t even get started on her earlier probation before violating. “Probation is not a vehicle to get out of jail,” she said. “If you were truly ready to change, you



Penninger

would have done what was asked. Consider yourself lucky that you’re not spending a whole year in jail.”

Lucas William Bennett, 39, of Dowagiac, pleaded guilty to use of meth and malicious destruction of property \$200 to \$1,000 and was sentenced to 90 days in jail with credit for three days served and \$175 in fines and costs.

The incident occurred May 19 in Niles Township.

Defense attorney Nicholas Hogue said it was very clear that Bennett has a drug problem and that he’s been going to counseling. He said Bennett has gotten his life back to where he needs to be and is in better shape that he had been in the past.

Judge Smith said the hardest part of her job is to figure out how many chances to give defendants. She noted that Bennett has been on two recent probations and that she saw no reason to duplicate other courts’ efforts. She said it’s up to him to address his addiction.

“There needs to be a sanction, I can’t just look the other way,” she said.

Kevin Alan Critzer, 44, of Niles,

pleaded guilty to uttering and publishing and was sentenced to 90 days in jail with credit for 43 days served and \$4,421.89 in fines, costs and restitution. He was sentenced to concurrent 60 day jail terms for two contempt of court charges for failing to appear for previous court hearings.

The incident occurred Nov. 18, 2019 in Bertrand Township when he wrote a check on a bank account he no longer had access to.

Terry Lyn Wiltfong, 45, of Niles, pleaded guilty to possession of narcotics/cocaine and second offense use of meth and was sentenced to two years probation, 200 days in jail with credit for 103 days served and \$796 in fines and costs. She can serve the remainder of her jail term in the Tri-Cap program.

The incident occurred March 28 in Niles Township.



Critzer



Wiltfong



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## Holiday Concert SMC’s Gift to the Community

### COMMUNITY REPORT

DOWAGIAC — Southwestern Michigan College Department of Fine and Performing Arts’ bands and choirs Dec. 7 delivered their annual gift to the community, the Holiday Concert.

Chorlennium, conducted by Director of Choral Activities David Carew, opened the evening with traditional French carols, “Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella” and “Chantons Noel,” plus “We Wish You a Merry Christmas.”

Men’s Ensemble performed “African Noel,” then the Choral Scholars sang “Veni Emmanuel,” “In the Bleak Midwinter” and “Carol of the Bells.”

The Collegiate Chorale presented “White Christmas,” “Ecce Novum,” “December Moon” and “Deck the Halls Rag.”

The Jazz Ensemble, under the baton of Director of Bands Mark Hollandsworth, hit the stage of the theatre in

the Dale A. Lyons Building after intermission with Trystyn Little singing “Let it Snow! Let it Snow! Let it Snow!” which also featured Joe Rizzo on a tenor saxophone solo.

Rizzo, of Niles, and alto saxophonist Isaiah Morris of Elkhart were also spotlighted on “What Child is This?” and “Tis the Season to be Funky,” which also featured a drum solo by Logan Petruska of Edwardsburg.

Hollandsworth’s Symphonic Band offered “Farandole, from L’Arlesienne Suite No. 2,” “A Fireside Medley” and “Candlelight Carol.”

Everyone assembled onstage for the rousing traditional finale, Leroy Anderson’s “Christmas Festival,” with the audience singing along in a medley of “Joy to the World,” “Deck the Halls,” “God Rest You Merry Gentlemen,” “Good King Wencelas,” “Hark the Herald Angels Sing,” “Silent Night,” “Jingle Bells” and “O Come, All Ye Faithful.”

## Niles man gets jail time for firearms, ammunition possession

By **DEBRA HAIGHT**  
Leader Publications Contributor

CASSOPOLIS — A Niles man found to be in possession of guns and ammunition was sentenced to jail Friday in Cass County Circuit Court.

Michael Wade Nikodem, 41, of Pine Lake Street in Niles, pleaded guilty to possession of firearms and ammunition by a prohibited person and was sentenced to 10 months in jail with credit for three days served and \$1,766 in fines and costs.

The incident occurred July 15 in Howard Township. Nikodem also faces related charges in Berrien County and will be sentenced later this month.

Cass County Prosecutor Victor Fitz said that Nikodem could have easily been going to prison Friday with his past criminal record. That record included convictions for armed robbery where he went to prison, home invasion and resisting and obstructing police. “He’s in his 40s now, he needs to start acting like a man,” he said.

Defense attorney Tat Parish said that Nikodem has had stable work for some time and is a low risk for more criminal activity. He said this incident occurred when his ex-girlfriend turned him in to police. “He shouldn’t be hammered just for the sake of being hammered,” he said.

“You have to ask yourself which is most important, guns or your children,” said Cass County Circuit Court Judge Mark Herman. “We have such a gun culture in this society and with your prior record, you just can’t have one. Your guidelines are prison, you need to thank your attorney for this deal.”

“My concern here is the quantity of guns,” the judge added, noting that police found 21 firearms in total in the vehicle-three of them stolen. “If you had no ill intent, this will probably come back to haunt you. I can guarantee you two things: if I see you



Nikodem

back, I will know your children are not priority. If you come back, don’t even use your children as an excuse.”

A 21-year-old Niles man who took part in an identity theft scheme involving Honor Credit Union members will get the chance to keep the charge off his permanent record.

The 21-year-old Niles man pleaded guilty to identity theft and was sentenced to an 11 month delayed sentence under the Holmes Youthful Training Act, credit for three days served and \$1,938 in fines and costs.

The incident occurred Dec. 27, 2023 at the Honor Credit Union branch in Dowagiac. The Niles man tried to cash a check for \$24,781 but the funds were never transferred to him.

“There’s good and bad here,” Cass County Prosecutor Victor Fitz said. “It’s good that he has no prior record but he jumped in the deep end of the pool here. He needs to thank his lucky stars that his attorney crafted this deal.”

Fitz said \$300,000 is the total amount Honor Credit Union said their members lost through the scheme that involved suspects from all over Michigan as well as other parts of the country and even other countries. No restitution was ordered and a restitution hearing could be held when and if Fitz submits the paperwork.

Defense attorney Robert Drake described the Niles man as an intelligent young man with a bright future ahead of him. He said Thomas was caught up in the allure of easy money. “This was one lapse of judgment from a youthful person,” he said.

Cass County Circuit Court Judge Mark Herman said the scheme involved texts sent to credit union members saying their accounts were compromised. When members used the provided link, their passwords and other log in information were stolen.

“You have a high school diploma and you’re currently employed,” the judge said. “Learn to earn your money honestly or you’ll end up going to prison. You need to understand at your age that foolish decisions made at 21 can af-

fect you at age 51.”

Three other area residents were given probation sentences.

Michael Jeffery DeRose, 27, of Mishawaka, pleaded guilty to third offense drunk driving and was sentenced to 18 months probation in a delayed sentence, credit for four days served, \$2,298 in fines and costs and \$345 in restitution.

The incident occurred Aug. 2 in Dowagiac. Police were called to the Vineyard Place apartments on reports of a car crashed into a tree. His blood alcohol level was .169, twice the legal limit. The charge will be reduced to a misdemeanor if he is successful on probation.

Jeffrey Brian Grigsby, 50, of Kalamazoo, pleaded guilty to second offense possession of methamphetamine and was sentenced to three years probation in the Swift & Sure program, completion of the Twin County Probation Program, credit for one day served and \$2,628 in fines and costs.

The incident occurred June 12 in Dowagiac. This is his 12th felony conviction and Grigsby has previously been to federal prison as well as prison in Illinois and Michigan.

“This isn’t a game, this is probably the last chance you have to change,” the judge said.

Msleah Nevaeh McGregor, 18, of Detroit, pleaded guilty to possession of a controlled substance and was sentenced to nine months probation, credit for two days served and \$1,805 in fines and costs. She can keep the charge off her record if she is successful on probation.

The incident occurred Sept. 4 at Southwestern Michigan College where she was a student. Drugs were found in her room and she was suspended from college.



DeRose



Grigsby



McGregor

Niles Daily Star

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# COMICS&PUZZLES

## ADAM



## ALLEY OOP



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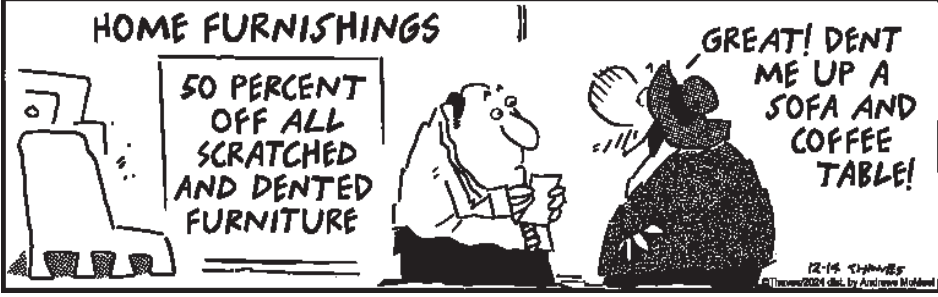
## BIG NATE



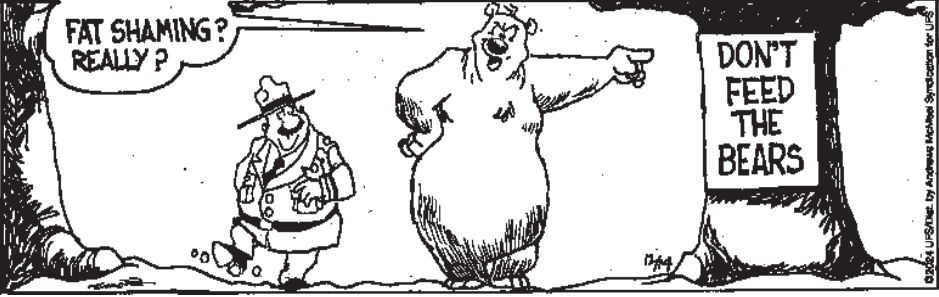
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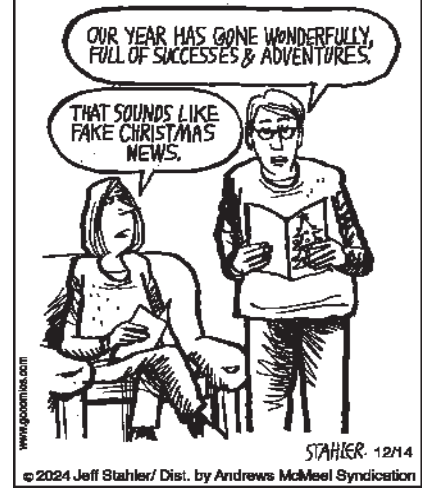
## SODOKU PUZZLE

**HOW TO PLAY:** Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

**DIFFICULTY RATING:** 5/5

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   |   |   |   |   | 2 |   | 4 | 9 |
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| 2 |   | 9 |   | 3 |   |   |   |   |
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|   |   |   |   | 4 |   |   |   |   |
| 3 | 5 |   |   |   | 1 |   |   | 6 |
|   |   |   |   | 2 |   | 3 |   | 5 |
|   | 6 | 4 | 3 | 7 |   |   |   |   |
| 5 | 2 |   | 1 |   |   |   |   |   |

## MODERATELY CONFUSED



## REALITY CHECK



## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

**ACROSS**

1 Unskilled actor

4 Criticize

7 Pack

11 Swellhead's problem

12 Red Muppet

13 Desire

14 Feel poorly

15 Witticism

16 Fashion magazine

17 Conductor's place

19 Hire

21 — Canaveral, Florida

23 Stopped a fast

24 Mean dwelling

27 Glass container

29 Pl follower

32 Copy

33 Sleep

34 Recipe direction

35 Marshy area

36 Engrave

37 Cakes and —

38 Demolition material

39 Soak, as flax

40 Accepted rule

42 — Jima

44 Cabbage salad

46 Spatter

49 Ralse

53 Layer

54 Fairy tale heavy

56 California's Blg —

57 Commedia dell'—

58 Look

59 Grassland

60 Keg contents

61 Tip

62 Days of yore

**DOWN**

1 Stack

2 Exchange premium

3 Give shape to

4 Chubby

5 Friend in France

6 "Uh-uh"

7 Used a broom

8 One at the helm

9 Norway's capital

10 Milk part

12 Same

18 Rocks in a pletcher

20 Grocery store

22 Ousts

24 Tool handle

25 Tennis event

26 Air

28 Powder residue

30 Town in Hawaii

31 Bovines

33 GPS suggestion

36 Love god

40 Antic

41 Piercing tool

43 Irrigate

45 Enticed

46 Picket line crosser

47 Tiny opening

48 "— springs eternal"

50 Ait

51 Gasoline

52 Jazz type

55 Mil. rank

## BREVITY



## HEART OF THE CITY



|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1  | 2  | 3  |    | 4  | 5  | 6  |    | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |
| 11 |    |    |    | 12 |    |    |    | 13 |    |    |    |
| 14 |    |    |    | 15 |    |    |    | 16 |    |    |    |
| 17 |    |    | 18 |    |    | 19 | 20 |    |    |    |    |
|    |    |    | 21 |    |    | 22 | 23 |    |    |    |    |
| 24 | 25 | 26 |    |    |    | 27 | 28 |    | 29 | 30 | 31 |
| 32 |    |    |    |    | 33 |    |    |    | 34 |    |    |
| 35 |    |    |    | 36 |    |    |    |    | 37 |    |    |
| 38 |    |    |    | 39 |    |    |    | 40 | 41 |    |    |
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| 57 |    |    |    | 58 |    |    |    |    | 59 |    |    |
| 60 |    |    |    | 61 |    |    |    |    | 62 |    |    |

DEATH NOTICES

**Charles Edward Haskins**, 88, passed away on Thursday, December 5, 2024, in Stevensville, Michigan. Arrangements have been entrusted to and are pending

with Brown Funeral Home & Cremation Services.

**Caroline Sue Potter**, 61, of Cassopolis, died Monday,

December 9, 2024. Gathering on Monday, December 16, 2024 from 11 a.m. until service at 12 Noon in Wagner Family Funerals, Cassopolis.

OBITUARIES



Jeanne Stevens

January 19, 1932  
- December 5, 2024

A servant of the Lord, Marilyn Jeanne Stevens, has left her earthly body and journeyed to her new home in Heaven. She was the daughter of Celeste Dorothy Brockmiller Sash and William Harold Sash of

Trenton, Michigan. The ninety-two years spent on earth were filled with her insatiable appetite for learning and an upbeat demeanor that motivated her to know no stranger and a curiosity of all creation. Jeanne earned a degree at Western Michigan University and raised six surviving children: Denise Stevens-Hatch, Diane and Ernest Gonzales, Glenn and Judith Stevens, Michael and Jeanette Stevens, Deborah and Sam Lynch, Tim and Laura Stevens. Also, she enjoyed her ten beautiful grandchildren and fourteen great grandchildren.

She also enjoyed her career with the AT&T Distribution and Material Management Center. She was a Physical Education teacher to children, taught Sunday school lessons for decades within the Methodist church, taught biology to adults toward earning their GEDs, taught immigrants the English language, instructed seniors in aerobics, and taught a love of nature participating in bird watching, gardening, daily walks and traveling.

A celebration of Jeanne's life will be held at Spring Woods United Methodist Church in Spring, Texas.

by siblings Thomas Elias, Frederick Elias, Christine Sweeney and Paulette Elias. Della is survived by her husband of 64 years, Gary; her children Tracee (Paul) Hicks, John (Cindy) Hargreaves; grandchildren Travis (Nicole) Hargreaves, Kelsey (Alan) Smith, and Ryan Hicks; great grandchildren Abigail, Raegan and Delilah Hargreaves, along with several nieces and nephews.

Della attended Western Michigan University where she received her BA in education. She moved to Niles, MI to become a teacher, which is the town where she met her husband Gary. They were married on May 28, 1960. Together they owned and operated Kugler's Beach, a summer resort in Niles that was not only a great place for daily patrons, but also where local kids were employed. Della's hard-working and driven attitude led the family business. She was also a mother figure to many of the high school employees.

In 1982, Della and Gary moved to Cape Coral, FL and purchased the Pool Doctor, a pool servicing company, which they jointly managed for 13 years.

Della's greatest joy, however, came from spending time with her family, going on vacations together, playing games, having dinners and just hanging out.

A memorial service/celebration for Della will be held next summer in Michigan.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested donations to the Alzheimer's Disease Foundation at alzfdn.org

Please share a condolence at [www.fullermetz.com](http://www.fullermetz.com)

Pat was preceded in death by her husband John C. Cary. She is survived by her sons John C. (Mary) Cary III and David J. (Jodi) Cary, both of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and her daughters Susan White of Niles, Michigan, and Barbara (Rex) Sessions of Harbert, Michigan; grandchildren Anna (Ben) Long, Brian Cary, Alex White, Isabel Sessions, Elizabeth Cary, Zachary Sessions, and Caroline Cary; and great grandchild Zeke Long; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Patricia "Pat" was born on May 6, 1928, in Youngstown, Ohio to Joseph and Frances Maude (Parker) Hyland. She graduated from East Orange High School in 1946 and attended Katharine Gibbs School in New York City from 1947 through 1948. She worked for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in Ann Arbor in 1952. On August 22, 1953, she married John Cornelius Cary. They moved to Niles, Michigan in 1963 where they were residents for 55 years, later moving in 2018 to Holy Cross Village in South Bend, Indiana. While raising four children, she received a B.A. from Indiana University in 1974, followed by her teaching degree.

Pat began teaching in the Niles Public Schools in 1975, first at Ballard Junior High, then at Niles High School until she retired in the late 1980s. In addition to teaching English, Pat directed the high school musicals in Niles for many years. She was a long-time member of the Niles Service League. Pat's creative abilities were abundant as she was an avid singer, dancer, writer, and seamstress. She also maintained many other interests, including golf and bridge.

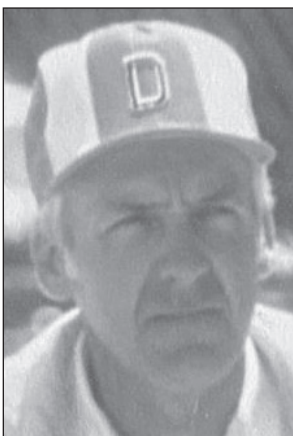
A celebration of Pat's life will be held on December 22, 2024 in Niles. Details of the celebration will be provided online this week on [www.brownfuneralhomeniles.com](http://www.brownfuneralhomeniles.com)

Stanley Klimczak

April 30, 1939  
- December 10, 2024

Stanley Bronek Klimczak, 85, of Dowagiac, passed away peacefully, surrounded by his family, on Tuesday, December 10, 2024 at his home in Dowagiac.

The family will receive guests from 2pm-5pm, Sunday, December 15, 2024 at Clark Chapel, 405 Center St., Dowagiac. A celebration of Stan's life will be held at 12pm,



Monday, December 16, 2024 at the funeral home, proceeding to Mission Hills Memorial Gardens, Niles, for committal. Memorial contributions may be given to the Dowagiac Athletic Boosters, 701 W. Prairie Ronde, Dowagiac, MI 49047. Those wishing to leave an online condolence for the family may do so at [www.clarkch.com](http://www.clarkch.com).

Stan was born April 30, 1939 in Poland to Thomas and Josephine (Wolczak) Klimczak. He moved to the states with his family when he was young, completing school and eventually marrying the love of his life, Donna Pierce, on April 16, 1966 in Dowagiac. He worked for Ameriwood for many years as a warehouse supervisor until his retirement. Throughout his life, Stan was known as "The Man." Whether it was his amazing sales during 50/50 raffles or his many years of coaching and supporting Dowagiac athletics, you could always find Stan cheering on any and all local sports clubs. If Stan was interested in something, he would become a master at it. He was a talented bowler, almost going professional; he learned to golf and took up running and became the best he possibly could. It was his competitive nature that impressed all who knew him. He worked hard, especially when it came to his family - always helping with anything at any time. He was a diehard Notre Dame fan, but nothing compared to the commitment he had for Dowagiac athletics.

Stan will be missed by his wife, Donna Klimczak; his children, Connie (David) Sprinkle, Sheri (Matthew) Ressler, and Brian (Missy) Klimczak; his grandchildren, Chelsea (John) Kocsis, Kennedy Klimczak, William Ressler, Davis Klimczak, and Madilynn Ressler; his great grandchildren, John, Tanner, Amelia, and Briar; and his sister, Helen Ludwig.

He is preceded in death by his siblings, Joe Klimczak, John Klimczak, Walt Klimczak, and Tom (Janet) Klimczak; and his parents.



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Patricia Cary

May 6, 1928  
- December 6, 2024

The world has lost a truly beautiful person, a woman of great character and joy, with the death of Patricia H. Cary "Pat", who passed on December 6, 2024, at age 96 years. Recently of South Bend, Indiana,

CROSSWORD ANSWER  
From Page 5

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SUDOKU ANSWER  
From Page 5

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# Commissioners recognize outgoing member Majerek

By DEBRA HAIGHT  
Leader Publications  
Contributor

ST. JOSEPH — Berrien County Commissioners honored outgoing Commissioner Michael Majerek at their Thursday morning meeting. Majerek will be leaving the board later this month after losing his bid for re-election earlier this year.

Majerek has served on the Board of Commissioners since 2017, representing the city of Niles and a small part of Niles Township. He was defeated in the August Republican primary by current County Clerk Sharon Tyler. Tyler announced earlier this year that she was retiring as clerk. Tyler then won the November general election.

Fellow County Commissioner Robert Harrison read the honorary resolution for Majerek who then received a standing ovation from his fellow commissioners and audience members. Majerek's last meeting will be next Thursday as the county board will not meet on Dec. 26.

"With this being one of his last meetings, we are recognizing Michael Majerek who has served since 2017," Harrison said. "He has been a valuable and conscientious member and contributed his many years of expertise in finances and leadership to the board."

"He has represented Berrien County at various



From left: Commissioner Robert Harrison, Michael Majerek, Councilmember McKinley Elliott.

boards including the mental health authority, the brownfield authority and the Niles Area Transportation Authority," Harrison added. "The county has met a number of significant milestones during his tenure including the development of the public defender office, the transition of the road commission to the road department and the expansion of broadband."

"He has freely given of his time and efforts and we formally recognize him for his many years of dedicated

service," he said.

Others recognized with honorary resolutions Thursday were Amy Young who is retiring from the county clerk's office after 28 years of service and Andrews University on their sesquicentennial anniversary. The university began as a college in Battle Creek in 1874 which moved to Berrien Springs in the early 1900s and became Andrews in 1960. The university is known for its diversity with students from over 100 countries attending.

Thursday's regular board meeting as well as earlier committee of the whole meeting featured a public hearing and then action on the county's new five year parks and recreation plan. The new plan will replace the current one that expires at the end of this year and will run through 2029.

Berrien County Parks Director Jill Adams spoke about the new plan at the public hearing. She noted that the process to develop the new plan began in the spring and included public

input at three open houses as well as at locations

around the county and online on the county's website.

The park plan has three major goals: maintaining the county's seven park facilities and amenities, improving the customer experience and ensuring the county has appropriate staff levels to meet and carry out goals. The county will also work to meet accessibility standards, expand spaces for park maintenance, continue partnerships with outside agencies and volunteers and identifying ways to generate more revenue.

The county parks include Madeline Bertrand County Park south of Niles, Love Creek County Park near Berrien Center and the Historic Courthouse Square in Berrien Springs. Projects in the plan for Madeline Bertrand include replacing the Visitors Center, building a new four-season facility to replace the River Shelter and expanding disc golf and cross country skiing opportunities.

SUBMITTED | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

## Area Agency on Aging to host balance class in Niles starting in January

### COMMUNITY REPORT

NILES — Those looking for practical strategies to manage falls as they age have an opportunity to participate in an upcoming class in Niles.

Region IV Area Agency on Aging is hosting A Matter of Balance: Managing Concerns About Falls from 1 to 3 p.m., Mondays, Jan. 6-Feb. 24, 2025, at the Greater Niles Senior Center, 1109 Bell Road, Niles

A Matter of Balance is

an award-winning, evidence-based program designed to help people manage concerns about falls and increase physical activity.

In this class you will learn to view falls as controllable; set goals for increased activity; make changes to reduce fall risks at home; and exercise to increase strength and balance.

"Anyone who is concerned about falls, interested in improving balance, flexibility and strength, fallen in the

past or has restricted activities because of falling concerns should attend," Julie Schwarz, education coordinator at AAA, says.

A Matter of Balance is conducted in 8 two-hour sessions and uses group discussion, problem-solving strategies, videos, and gentle physical exercise. Older adults learn positive coping methods to reduce fear of falling and remain active and independent.

Past participants report

they have increased the amount they exercise on a regular basis since attending the class.

The cost to attend is \$20 for the workbook, but scholarships are available.

"We never want cost to be a barrier to providing this critical information to the community," Schwarz said.

If you would like to attend or want more information, please contact Schwarz at julieschwarz@areaagencyonaging.org or 269-982-7759

## FEATURE

Continued from page A1

fill that niche amongst their job of preserving and telling the history of Niles."

There is not currently a comprehensive Niles history book in print. Christina Arseneau and Mollie Watson would co-author the book, which Arseneau anticipated will be available sometime in 2026.

"There have been a few Niles history books over the years, but it's probably been since the 1980s there was anything published at all," Arseneau said. "We could certainly add from that time period on and we have more historic photos that we can use."

Arseneau added that the book offers the opportunity to include more women's history and African American history into the overall story of Niles.

"There are a lot of groups that don't get included in some of those older narratives and that's something that we want to correct and tell those sto-

ries as well," she said. "We really have an amazing history here in Niles, so it's a great opportunity to share that."

Arcadia has previously published thousands of pictorial histories on communities and topics around the country. They are a full-service trade publisher, they absorb all the costs of publishing the book and provide sales and marketing support after its release. They pay royalties on each book sold and give authors the option to purchase highly discounted books to resell for fundraising. The contract is included with the report.

"We know from our visitations from the programming that we do that there is an interest in history in Niles. From people who have lived here for a long time and then even newcomers, we have a lot of visible historic buildings, historic sites and they want to know that history, too. This is an opportunity for us to do that."

### In other business, council:

• Approved the \$7,035 quote from Industrial Door of Northern Indiana of South Bend, IN for the overhead

garage door replacement at the Street Division Building.

• Approved an updated Facilities Agreement between the city, American Electric Power Service Corporation, Michigan Public Power Agency for the South Side Delivery Point, which would allow the city to proceed with reimbursable expenses at the South Side Delivery Point, and make the necessary upgrades to continue the reliable distribution of power to city customers.

• Approved the Comcast Video Service Local Franchise Agreement, Attachment 2, Legal Entity Adjustment document. The city holds a franchise agreement with Comcast of California/Connecticut/Michigan to distribute cable services within the City of Niles. Comcast of California/Connecticut/Michigan is being transferred to its wholly owned subsidiary, Comcast of Connecticut, Inc. This change in ownership does not affect the franchise agreement conditions or services provided in the community. Comcast franchise provides approximately \$91,500 in annual revenue to the General Fund.

## ADULT

Continued from page A1

in Arizona, visit schools and classrooms and participate in panel discussions. He said the experience also gave him the chance to network with other Michigan and Indiana educators in attendance.

He said the schools they visited and the educa-

tors they talked with were working on concepts such as project based learning, standards based grading and student centered teaching that he would like to bring to Brandywine. He said the educators he talked to were excited about instituting these new types of programs.

"I was able to pick their brains," he said. "They really reinforced the idea of teachers working together and collaborating," he said.

"One classroom had 90 students and four teachers all in the same room and you couldn't tell who was teaching which subject."

"It's something I see a lot of value in, now it's about how we bring it back to Brandywine," he added. "We've done a lot in a short time and it's a matter of where we can integrate these ideas. It's not something I can come back and mandate, we have to see where we can dip our toes

in this."

Walker also took time to highlight the district's community giving efforts. He said that the district has been able to step up and provide foot and gifts for 60 families this holiday season through a combination of fundraising as well as donations from community organizations, businesses and staff. He specifically thanked Sturgis Bank, Peerless Electric and Custom Computer Company.



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# NEWS

Continued from page A1

back as the full-time manager last December. He announced earlier this fall that he planned to step down at the end of the year.



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City commissioners conducted a city manager search and voted in late November to offer a contract to Abonmarche vice-president Tony McGhee to be the next city manager. No final contract with McGhee has been brought before the commission for action. Lynch said Monday that he expects to stay on for a short while to help in the transition.

City Commissioner Dan Vigansky was the first to praise Lynch. "I want to thank you, Tim," he said. "City residents don't realize how bad it was. The budget was an absolute nightmare for years."

Commissioners Larry Money, Raquell George and Patrick Swem as well as Mayor Mark Weedon also praised Lynch. "I want to thank Tim for everything he has poured into the community," George said. "I hope he sticks around for a while."

"Congratulations to the finance team for two years of improved audits," Swem said. "The city government is running more efficiently and the belt tightening allows us to do more big projects."

"There are no words (to say to Tim)," Weedon said. "You've given the city a

"I want to thank you, Tim. City residents don't realize how bad it was. The budget was an absolute nightmare for years."

— Dan Vigansky

concert schedule but also a \$10,000 contribution to the concert series. Swem pointed out that the city has been contributing \$10,000 annually for at least a decade.

Rowland said the Common committee has received donations in recent years and have also done fundraising. He said there is strong community support for both the Thursday and Saturday concerts throughout the summer.

Commissioners voted to cancel their Dec. 23 meeting. They will meet again on Jan. 13, 2025.

The city is calling for applicants interested in serving on the Municipal Officers Compensation Commission as outlined in the City Charter. Applicants must be registered electors of the city. Five people will be chosen to serve and decide on what compensation city officials should receive. People can apply at City Hall by Dec. 31.

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# YEAR

Continued from page A1

forever. Sixty years is a long time," Odenwald said, "and we're still going strong. As happy as we are about 2024, we're keenly focused on 2025 and all we must do to maintain momentum," with the board doing its strategic planning the morning of Jan. 8, moving the business

portion of the next meeting to 1 p.m.

Trustees also awarded two service pins, one for five years to Alumni Relations and Development Coordinator Emily Schrock of Dowagiac and the other to Building and Grounds Director John Eberhart of Benton Harbor for 20 years.

Schrock was valedictorian in Constantine before coming to SMC to study business administration. She worked in the admis-

sions office as a student for her 2016 associate degree.

Schrock continued her education through Ferris State University, working part-time as SMC's admissions communications specialist until she graduated in 2018 with a bachelor's degree concentrated in digital marketing.

After three years at St. Joseph Today as marketing manager, Schrock returned to SMC in 2021 as alumni relations and development coordinator.

She accepted additional responsibilities last summer with the foundation, becoming its executive director. She organized last month's inaugural Founders Day and last week earned her certificate of fundraising management (CFRM) from Indiana University Indianapolis.

Eberhart joined the college in November 2004 as

an electrician in the Buildings and Grounds Department. He earned his electrical journeyman's card in Michigan in 1980 and earned the highest level of licensure and expertise by becoming a master electrician in 1987.

After working on campus as an electrician for 10 years, Eberhart was promoted to director of buildings and grounds.

"Over the last 10 years, John has played an instrumental role in moving the college forward, leading several major projects including, as of late, the Niles chemistry lab renovation, 1st Source Bank Fieldhouse and, currently, the residence halls expansion," said Senior Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer Brent Brewer.

The board acknowledged six gifts to the SMC Foundation totaling \$2,120.

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<sup>2</sup> APY = Annual Percentage Yield, 0.00% APY. \$250 paid when new or existing member without a current checking account opens a personal checking account with a minimum opening deposit of \$25, sets up qualifying direct deposit(s) totaling \$500 or more and conducts 8+ debit card transactions all within 60 days of account opening. A qualifying direct deposit is defined as one from a recurring paycheck, pension, or government benefits (such as social security) payments only. Non-payroll related ACH, person-to-person payments and transfers from other financial institutions or other Honor CU accounts do not qualify. Bonus will be paid within 30 days of minimum requirements being met. New account must remain open and maintain a positive balance for at least 90 days. If criteria is not met, \$250 bonus will be withdrawn from account. New members must open account at [honorcu.com/bonus/](http://honorcu.com/bonus/) or a local member center location. Existing members must open new checking account at member center location, phone, or video appointment, and specifically mention the \$250 offer at time of opening. Existing members that have closed a checking account at Honor in last five years, not eligible. Offer subject to change without notice. The value of the reward may be reported on the appropriate Internal Revenue Service (IRS) forms and may be considered taxable income to you. Please consult your tax advisor regarding your specific situation. Insured By NCUA.

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BASKETBALL

SMC men's, women's hoops earn weekend sweeps



SUBMITTED | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

COMMUNITY REPORT

DOWAGIAC — SMC's men's and women's basketball teams trekked north last weekend and made the most of it, picking up two wins in as many tries.

On Friday against the North Central Michigan Timberwolves, the SMC men dominated, leading by 30 at the half and eventually putting away the home team by 32, 81-49. The Timberwolves just had no answer for sophomore Aries Hull, who again double-doubled with 21 points and 10 rebounds, going a perfect 5-5 from the field and 10-11 from the charity stripe. Freshman Davion Goins scored 12 and sophomore RJ Davis went 3-5 from long

distance to add 11 points.

Saturday at Kirtland was more competitive and the Roadrunners led by just one at the half. The second half went more SMC's way and the visitors defeated the Firebirds by a final tally of 70-58. Hull again double-doubled with 18 points and 14 boards, Goins went for 16 and freshman Gio Williams had a career-high 11 points, going 3-5 from downtown and 2-2 from the line.

On the women's side, SMC (10-2) led North Central Michigan by eight points after Q1 and just kept stretching the lead, especially in the second half, eventually putting away the home team by 29, 81-52. The Roadrunners were led on Friday

by freshman guard Rayvan Rush with 27 points, who went 11-20 from the field and 5-6 from the line. Sophomore Caley Strahan double-doubled off the bench with 16 points and 13 rebounds, while freshman guard Livy Robinson added 14.

On Saturday at Kirtland, the Roadrunners were again unwelcome guests and torched the Firebirds 77-49. Rush led all scorers with 27 points, freshman Shiyah Forte went off for 20 points and seven rebounds, and freshmen Maggie Weller and Strahan each added 10 points.

Both SMC teams have a short break for finals before traveling to face the Owens Express at 5:30 and 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 19.

BASKETBALL



FALCONS BEAT BOBCATS  
Schoolcraft too much for Brandywine in 60-21 loss

By SCOTT HASSINGER  
Leader Publications Contributor

SCHOOLCRAFT — Four games into the 2024-25 season, Niles Brandywine boys' basketball coach Nathan Knapp is looking for his Bobcats to step up and become mentally tougher on the court.

Knapp, who returns just one starter on a Bobcats' squad that finished 26-3 last season and won a Division 3 state championship, watched his squad fall to 2-2 overall after Tuesday's non-league road loss at Schoolcraft 60-21.

"We tested the water tonight and they (Schoolcraft) smacked us in the mouth. Our kids were kind've shellshocked and shut down. We had open shots and didn't hit them and we didn't play very good defense. Our rotations were bad and we weren't communicating," Knapp said. "I'm not taking anything away from Schoolcraft because they came out and played great half-court man-to-man defense and dictated the game. Life is going to throw you curveballs and tonight our DNA was to roll over and quit. You have to keep

fighting."

The game was a rematch of last year's regional finals won by Brandywine 41-32.

But Brandywine, which had won its last two games this season over Stevensville-Lake-shore and Buchanan following a season-opening loss to Coloma, was overmatched this time against a more experienced Schoolcraft ballclub.

Brandywine, which graduated leading scorer and first-team All-State forward Jeremiah Palmer, along with his brother and starting guard Jamier Palmer, guard Byron Linley and center Brock Dye, returns just one starter in junior guard Nylen Goins.

Despite dressing just eight players, balanced scoring proved big for Schoolcraft. Sophomore guard Kodee Bienz came off the bench to lead the Eagles' in scoring with 18, including a trio of three pointers. Sophomore Ty Goddard and 6-9 junior Jimmy Miller added 13 points apiece for the Eagles, now 3-0. Senior Luke Rykse (6-6) contributed seven points for the winners.

Rykse (6-6) and Miller along

with junior guard Tucker Walther (6-4) were all tough matchups for Brandywine. The Bobcats used their superior length to dominate inside and win the rebounding advantage 40-22.

Miller led Schoolcraft on the glass with 11 rebounds and Walther snagged seven.

Schoolcraft connected for 24 field goals, including seven triples, and went 5-of-7 at the foul stripe.

"We trust all of our kids to handle the basketball and they all have the confidence to do that. Our team is actually really inexperienced. We only have three kids returning from last year's varsity team that played. Everyone on the team is contributing. Our length allows us to be really consistent and get shots up consistently over most teams we face," said Schoolcraft head coach Derrick Small.

Brandywine's biggest spark-plug on the night was 6-4 sophomore postplayer Will Hubbard who scored eight points for the Bobcats. Goins and Elijahia Burt added five each and junior Ryder Richard scored

See LOSS, Page B3

SCOTT HASSINGER | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

Niles Brandywine sophomore guard Elijahia Burt (3) drives between Schoolcraft defenders Jaden Reiber (12) and Luke Rykse (2) to score two points for the Bobcats in the first half Tuesday night.

WRESTLING

Addition of girls wrestling team title highlights winter sports changes

COMMUNITY REPORT

LANSING — With the first wrestling matches of the 2024-25 season taking place Wednesday, and the first girls and boys skiing

and Lower Peninsula boys swimming & diving meets able to be scheduled for this weekend, teams will be competing in all 13 winter sports

See CHANGES, Page B2



SUBMITTED | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

The Niles girls wrestling team poses for a photo.

FOOTBALL

Golden Named Finalist for Broyles Award

COMMUNITY REPORT

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — After a remarkable regular season for the Irish defense,

Bob Hinton Defensive Coordinator Al Golden has been named a finalist for the 2024

See GOLDEN, Page B3



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# Big second-half effort pulls Cassopolis past Bangor

By **SCOTT HASSINGER**  
Leader Publications Contributor

CASSOPOLIS — With such a young basketball team, Cassopolis head boys’ basketball coach Charles Superczynski II knows his Rangers are going to endure some growing pains early on this season.

After struggling most of the first half, Cassopolis used a big second-half to pull away and bury visiting non-league foe Bangor 71-48 Friday, Dec. 6 in the Rangers’ home opener.

Cassopolis, now 2-1, broke open a close game at halftime by outscoring Bangor 42-25 in the second half in cruising to the lopsided win.

The Rangers, who have no seniors on their roster, entered the locker room at intermission clinging to a six-point (29-23) advantage.

Despite his team’s slow start, Superczynski II was pleased with his team’s effort, especially in the final two quarters.

“Right now we are a little too cool and lackadaisical to start the game. Our kids have to learn how to match the intensity they played with in the second half over the entire game. I explained to the kids if we don’t do that a lot of teams are going to stay with us or blow us out,” Superczynski II said. “We flipped the switch in the final half and played better defensively.”

Sophomore guard Lucas Williams scored 11 of his game-high 26 points for the Rangers in the third quarter to help his squad outscore the Vikings 15-11 and build itself a 44-34 cushion entering the fourth stanza. Williams drained three of his four three-pointers during that sparn as well.

Cassopolis put the contest away by outscoring Bangor 27-14 in the fourth quarter. Williams scored eight points during the final period, while freshman Tyson West added six points and Trevon-Peterson Evans and Ayden Gilliam added five apiece.

Joining Williams in double-digit scoring were West with 15 points, Peterson-Evans scored 13, Peterson-Evans chipped in nine and Aaren Buck-Hooper added five.



**SCOTT HASSINGER | LEADER PUBLICATIONS**  
**ABOVE:** Cassopolis junior guard Trevon Peterson-Evans (4) drives between Bangor defenders Jaret McCoy (12) and Jonah Luter (2) in the first half.  
**BELOW:** Cassopolis freshman center Aarenn Buck-Hooper (11) scores inside over Bangor’s Julian Pullins (3).



Cassopolis made 27 field-goal attempts, including nine triples, and made 8-of-12 free-throw attempts.

West also pulled down a team-high 15 rebounds for the Rangers. Gilliam added seven boards and six steals. Williams added four boards and five steals. Peterson-Evans also added four rebounds, four assists and five steals.

“Tyson gave us a huge boost with his rebounding because we’ve been struggling on the boards. He came in and decided he was going to rebound and it was a huge spark for us,” Superczynski said.

Bangor was led in the scoring column by Tyler Caruso with 17. Julian Pullins added 13 followed by Carson Pillins

with nine and Jarret McCoy finished with six.

The Vikings made a total of 15 field-goal attempts, including five triples, and made 13-of-23 free-throw attempts.

Cassopolis won the rebounding battle 39-23.

A Jonah Luter triple put Bangor up 8-5 midway through the opening period. A putback by West helped Cassopolis knot the score at 11-11. Bangor, however, got an old-fashioned three-point play from Caruso to lead the Rangers 16-14 entering the second quarter.

West scored five points and Cassopolis got triples from Gillam and Williams in the second stanza in helping the Rangers to a 29-23 halftime

advantage.

“At halftime we explained to the kids that we have to work really hard to achieve the things we want to achieve this season. We aren’t goint to have things handed to us just because we are Cassopolis. We gave to really strive to get better,” Superczynski said.

Cassopolis’ head coach likes what he’s seen out of Williams and the rest of his group of guards.

“We have solid guards and alot of good shooters. We can be a good team if we can settle down and play good defense. I like that we are so young, but we have to be able to get after people right away and not just when it matters the most,” Superczynski said.

## NILES BOWLING TEAMS SWEEP OTSEGO



**PHOTO COURTESY OF KRISTI WESTON**  
**The Niles boys and girls bowling teams picked up Wolverine Conference victories Wednesday. The boys beat Otsego 28-2 and the girls 25-5. Boys, from left: Gavin Dandrاند, Adam Jackson, Aidan Kidwell, Shawn Atkins, Gunner Scherer, Beau Kirkdoll, Hunter Kater. Girls, from left: Maria Avila -Ramirez, Paris Knight, Kenley Weston, Alexis Kidwell, Miley Kater, Ayrial Vail.**

# CHANGES

Continued from page B1

for which the Michigan High School Athletic Association sponsors postseason tournaments.

Those sports are or will soon join competition already underway in girls and boys basketball, girls and boys bowling, girls competitive cheer, girls gymnastics, boys ice hockey, and Upper Peninsula girls and boys swimming & diving.

This season, for the first time, an MH-SAA Finals team championship will be awarded in girls wrestling. After first introducing a girls championship bracket to the Individual Wrestling Finals for the 2021-22 season, the MHSAA will honor its first team champion based on those individual finishes. The format will be similar to how MHSAA team championships were awarded for boys wrestling prior to the creation of the dual format Team Finals with the 1987-88 season.

Also on the wrestling mat, a competition rule change alters the penalty for using a wrestler at an ineligible weight class – dependent on when the ineligible wrestler is discovered.

Beginning this season, the use of an ineligible wrestler – if discovered during the involved match – will result in six team points being awarded to the opponent, plus the head coach of the team with the ineligible wrestler will be assessed an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty resulting in a one-point team score deduction. If the ineligible wrestler is discovered after the involved match, any points earned by the offending wrestler will be removed from the team score, along with the point for unsportsmanlike conduct, and six points will be added to the offended team’s total. In both instances, neither wrestler involved in the match in question may compete again in that dual. If the ineligible wrestler is discovered after the dual is completed, the teams have left the mat area and the scorebook has been signed by the official, the results and team score will stand.

A pair of wrestling playing rules changes also will be immediately noticeable. The number of match points awarded for a takedown was increased from two to three. Also, near-fall points will now be awarded based on the number of seconds during which the near-fall criteria are met – beginning with two points for two seconds, up to four points for four seconds.

Postseasons for basketball and bowling also will incorporate slight changes. In basketball, entire District brackets will be seeded for the first time, instead of the previous top two teams receiving seeds only. Michigan Power Ratings (MPR) data will still be used to seed those full brackets. In bowling, Regionals may now take place as early in the week as Wednesday and Thursday, as long as the Team and Singles competitions are competed on consecutive days. Previously, those were competed only on Fridays and Saturdays, respectively.

The 2024-25 Winter campaign culminates with postseason tournaments, as the championship schedule begins with the Upper Peninsula Girls & Boys Swimming & Diving Finals on Feb. 15 and wraps up with the Girls Basketball Finals on March 22. Here is a complete list of winter tournament dates:

- Boys Basketball**
  - Districts – Feb. 24, 26, 28
  - Regionals – March 4, 6
  - Quarterfinals – March 11
  - Semifinals – March 13-14
  - Finals – March 15
- Girls Basketball**
  - Districts – March 3, 5, 7
  - Regionals – March 10, 12
  - Quarterfinals – March 18
  - Semifinals – March 20-21
  - Finals – March 22
- Bowling**
  - Regionals – Feb. 19-22
  - Finals – Feb. 28-March 1
- Competitive Cheer**
  - Districts – Feb. 14-15
  - Regionals – Feb. 22
  - Finals – Feb. 28-March 1
- Gymnastics**
  - Regionals – March 1
  - Finals – March 7-8
- Ice Hockey**
  - Regionals – Feb. 17-26
  - Quarterfinals – March 1
  - Semifinals – March 6-7
  - Finals – March 8
- Skiing**
  - Regionals – Feb. 10-14
  - Finals – Feb. 24
- Swimming & Diving**
  - Upper Peninsula Girls/Boys Finals – Feb. 15
  - Lower Peninsula Boys Diving Regionals – March 6
  - Lower Peninsula Boys Finals – March 14-15
- Wrestling – Team**
  - Districts – Feb. 5-6
  - Regionals – Feb. 12
  - Finals – Feb. 21-22
- Wrestling – Individual**
  - Districts – Feb. 8
  - Boys Regionals – Feb. 15
  - Girls Regionals – Feb. 16
  - Finals – Feb. 28-March 1

DAILY DATA

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL

**BRANDYWINE 59, BUCHANAN 26**  
**Dec. 5 at Buchanan**  
BRANDYWINE (59): Adeline Gill 22, Karleigh Byrd 2, Adelyn Drotoz 15, Mackenna Price 9, Lily Gill 5, Lexi Troup 0, Paige Krisler 3, Miley Young 1, Niyah Mason 0, MaKenzie Myer 2, Brook Brumitt 0. Totals 19 13-18 59.  
BUCHANAN (26): Caitlyn Horvath 6, Maddie Young 3, Lea Atkinson 2, Aspen Berry 2, Evyn Pruett 0, Justyce Cashier 3, Katie Ailes 2, Alyssa Carson 8. Totals 10 2-4 26.  
Brandywine 13 30 36 59  
Buchanan 8 17 21 26  
3-point baskets: Brandywine 8 (Drotoz 5, Price 1, L. Gill 1, Krisler 1), Buchanan 4 (Horvath 2, Cashier 1, Carson 1). Total fouls (fouled out): Brandywine 8, Buchanan 19 (Young). Records: Brandywine 2-0 (1-0 Lakeland Conference), Buchanan 0-2 (0-1 Lakeland Conference).

**OTSEGO 44, NILES 31**  
**Dec. 6 at Otsego**  
NILES (31): Jessie Thornton 17, Tanaya Brown 6, Maddie Zache 0, Kayla Kiggins 0, Mia Holmes 3, Ari Gerrits 5. Totals 7 11-21 31.  
OTSEGO (44): Allie Proctor 0, Peyton Johnson 5, Reagan Engbers 4, Mya Engbers 2, Madden Fitzpatrick 11, Audrey Lingbeek 9, Tessa Proogh 11, Olivia Hildebrand 2. Totals 15 11-21 44.  
Niles 4 11 18 31  
Otsego 11 27 29 44  
3-point baskets: Niles 2 (Thornton 2), Otsego 3 (Johnson 1, Fitzpatrick 1, Lingbeek 1). Total fouls (fouled out): Niles 19 (Thornton), 20 (M. Engbers). Records: Niles 1-1 (0-1 Wolverine Conference), Otsego 1-1 (1-0 Wolverine Conference).

**EDWARDSBURG 60, THREE RIVERS 29**  
**Dec. 6 at Edwardsburg**  
THREE RIVERS (29): Dani Glass 11, Natalie McGahan 0, Neiraja Reyes 6, Jersey Roehrs 3, Hannah Colburn 2, Alyssa Stalker 4, Braylee Burg 3. Totals 11 5-14 29.  
EDWARDSBURG (60): Shelby Laubach 4, Ella Zache 6, Maddie Pobuda 15, Kourtney Zarycki 17, Mya Eberlein 6, Kya Shier 12. Totals 20 15-22 60.  
Three Rivers 7 13 19 29  
Edwardsburg 17 30 44 60  
3-point baskets: Three Rivers 2 (Glass 1, Roehrs 1), Edwardsburg 5 (Pobuda 3, Zache 2). Total fouls: Three Rivers 19, Edwardsburg 14. Records: Three Rivers 0-2 (0-1 Wolverine Conference), Edwardsburg 1-1 (1-0 Wolverine Conference).  
Highlights: Shier had 11 rebounds, five steals and four assists, Laubach had five rebounds and seven steals, Zarycki had five rebounds and four steals and Zache four steals.

**BRANDYWINE 64, HARTFORD 8**  
**Dec. 9 at Niles**  
HARTFORD (8): Lily Wolf 0, Yajaira Reyna 0, Katrina Wodlington 4, Destiny Davis-Russell 0, Valerina Mandujano 4. Totals 4 0-0 8.  
BRANDYWINE (64): Adeline Gill 6, Karleigh Byrd 3, Adelyn Drotoz 9, Ireland Prenkert 6, Mackenna Price 0, Lily Gill 3, Lexi Troup 9, Paige Krisler 10, Miley Young 13, Niyah Mason 2, Brook Brumitt 3. Totals 25 2-6 64.  
Hartford 2 4 6 8  
Brandywine 34 44 55 64  
3-point baskets: Hartford 0, Brandywine 12 (Drotoz 3, Troup 3, Prenkert 2, Krisler 2, L. Gill 1, Young 1). Total fouls: Hartford 5, Brandywine 1. Records: Hartford 0-2, Brandywine 3-0

**DOWAGIAC 57, BENTON HARBOR 20**  
**Dec. 9 at Benton Harbor**  
DOWAGIAC (57): Claire Hess 7, Shamyra Clark 2, Marlie Carpenter 16, Zabrina Shivers 4, Niya Moss 6, Evie Lock 5, Olivia McIntosh 16, Bree Campbell 0, Jamela Bonds 1. Totals 23 8-18 57.  
BENTON HARBOR (20): Za'Keira Baxter 3, Leona Thompson 0, L. Douglas 3, K. Moore 1, M. Green 3, Javie Swift 9, H. Smith 1. Totals 6 6-20 20  
Dowagiac 13 32 55 57  
Benton Harbor 3 9 16 20  
3-point baskets: Dowagiac 3 (McIntosh 2, Lock 1), Benton Harbor 2 (Baxter 1, Green 1). Total

fouls: Dowagiac 17, Benton Harbor 14. Records: Benton Harbor 0-2 (0-1 Lakeland Conference), Dowagiac 1-1 (1-0 Lakeland Conference).

**BUCHANAN 45, CASSOPOLIS 8**  
**Dec. 9 at Buchanan**  
CASSOPOLIS (8): Mackenzie Boyer 4, Janayla Franklin 0, Jamiya Hart 0, Aleah Dahlgren 2, Alaina Grissom 0, Maliyan Flowers 0, Cheyenne Redman 2, Marlana Antisdell 0, Ryley Bowsher 0. Totals 4 0-4 8.  
BUCHANAN (45): Caitlin Horvath 9, Maddie Young 6,. Lea Atkinson 2, Aspen Berry 3, Evyn Pruett 0, Katie Ailes 11, Alyssa Carson 10, Cam Carlson 2, Akimah Robinson 2, Navaeh Nowak 0. Totals 15 11-28 45.  
Cassopolis 2 6 8 8  
Buchanan 11 23 35 45  
3-point baskets: Cassopolis 0, Buchanan 4 (Horvath 2, Young 1, Carson 1). Total fouls: Cassopolis 20, Buchanan 13. Records: Cassopolis 0-1, Buchanan 1-2.

**PAW PAW 56, EDWARDSBURG 35**  
**Dec. 10 at Paw Paw**  
EDWARDSBURG (35): Shelby Laubach 7, Ella Zache 2, Maddie Pobuda 10, Kourtney Zarycki 11, Mya Eberlein 0, Kya Shier 5. Totals 15 3-10 35.  
PAW PAW (56): Eva Charron 3, Grace Mitchell 15, Ruby Schincariol 2, Stella Shaefer 4, A.J. Rickli 32. Totals 20 12-12 56.  
Edwardsburg 10 17 24 35  
Paw Paw 6 21 40 56  
3-point baskets: Edwardsburg 2 (Pobuda 2), Paw Paw 4 (Mitchell 3, Sharron 1). Total fouls: Edwardsburg 11, Paw Paw 11. Records: Edwardsburg 1-2 (1-1 Wolverine Conference), Paw Paw 2-1 (1-1 Wolverine Conference).

**VICKSBURG 63, NILES 16**  
**Dec. 10 at Vicksburg**  
NILES (16): Jessie Thornton 6, Tanaya Brown 3, Maddie Zache 0, Kayla Kiggins 2, Mia Holmes 3, Ari Gerrits 2. Totals 5 5-5 16.  
VICKSBURG (63): Kelsie Tuinier 4, Scarlett Hosner 12, Eleanor Lincoln 2, Kendra Cooley 9, Emily Zemitans 4, Makayla Allen 19, Hannah DeVries 11, Ella Mann 2. Totals 25 8-10 63.  
Niles 5 13 13 16  
Vicksburg 22 40 57 63  
3-point baskets: Niles 1 (Holmes 1), Vicksburg 5 (Allen 2, Hosner 1, DeVries 1, Cooley 1). Total fouls: Niles 14, Vicksburg 9. Records: Niles 1-2 (0-2 Wolverine Conference), Vicksburg 3-0 (2-0 Wolverine Conference).

**BUCHANAN 45, WHITE PIGEON 30**  
**Dec. 11 at White Pigeon**  
BUCHANAN (45): Caitlin Horvath 8, Maddie Young 5, Aspen Berry 0, Evyn Pruett 1, Justyce Cashier 4, Katie Ailes 10, Alyssa Carson 17. Totals 15 9-14 45.  
WHITE PIGEON (30): Shelby McDaniel 2, Amyia Wright 3, Jennafaye Zehr 3, Kenlee Schrader 6, Sydney McClure 8, Sadie McDaniel 8. Totals 10 5-13 30.  
Buchanan 13 23 33 45  
White Pigeon 7 10 17 30  
3-point baskets: Buchanan 6 (Carson 5, Horvath 1), White Pigeon 5 (McClure 2, Schrader 2, Zehr 1). Total fouls (fouled out): Buchanan 13, White Pigeon 10 (McClure). Records: Buchanan 2-2, White Pigeon 0-2

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL

**BRANDYWINE 67, BUCHANAN 57**  
**Dec. 6 at Buchanan**  
BRANDYWINE (67): J.J. Henry 0, Nylen Goins 14, Elijah Burt 4, Will Hubbard 10, Ryder Richard 26, Emerson Gogley 13, Jordan Hester 0. Totals 23 14-24 67  
BUCHANAN (57): Preston Payne 7, Liam McBeth 15, Karmine Brown 17, Jake Franklin 0, Darius Williams 3, Logan Wiggins 2, Will Carson 4, Owen Thompson 5, Ari Johnson 4. Totals 21 6-10 57.  
Brandywine 18 31 40 67  
Brandywine 16 28 39 57

3-point baskets: Brandywine 7 (Richard 4, Goins 1, Burt 1, Gogley 1), Buchanan 9 (Brown 4, McBeth 3, Payne 1, Williams 1). Total fouls: Brandywine 13, Buchanan 23 (Franklin). Records: Brandywine 2-1 (1-0 Lakeland Conference), Buchanan 1-2 (0-1 Lakeland Conference).  
Highlights: Richard scored 12 of his game-high 26 points in the fourth quarter.

**NILES 54, OTSEGO 43**  
**Dec. 6 at Otsego**  
NILES (54): Quinton King Jr. 0, Brayden Favors 13, Andre Wells Jr. 15, Brenden Olsen 18, Acie Kirtdoll 3, Derek Hill Jr. 1, Donovan Williams 4. Totals 20 11-19 54.  
OTSEGO (43): Rowan Busscher 3, Louis DiGrandi 10, Owen Santman 6, Kal-el Leonard 3, Matthew Long 5, Calin Fitzpatrick 7, Scottie Duer 2, Mayson Roden 7. Totals 16 6-13 43.  
Niles 10 24 36 54  
Otsego 15 28 40 43  
3-point baskets: Niles 3 (Wells Jr. 1, Olsen 1, A. Kirtdoll 1), Otsego 6 (Santman 2, Busscher 1, DiGrandi 1, Leonard 1). Total fouls: Niles 12, Otsego 15. Records: Niles 1-2 (1-1 Wolverine Conference), Otsego 1-2 (0-2 Wolverine Conference).  
Highlight: Wells Jr. scored eight of his 15 in the fourth quarter as Niles rallied for the win.

**EDWARDSBURG 61, THREE RIVERS 44**  
**Dec. 6 at Edwardsburg**  
THREE RIVERS (44): Drake Graver 1, Brayden Carpenter 13, Blake Stewart 7, Jace Gray 7, Lamonta Stone 4, Zander Barth 4, Carter Langston 6, Max Burg 2. Totals 17 10-14 44.  
EDWARDSBURG (61): Joe Shively 17, Brody Schimpa 19, Conor Solorek 12, Blaise Crist 9, Nick Springer 2, Ayden Billingsley 2, Michael Wright 0, Matt Anders 0. Totals 24 8-11 61.  
Three Rivers 16 27 33 44  
Edwardsburg 18 26 40 61  
3-point baskets: Three Rivers 0, Edwardsburg 5 (Schimpa 4, Shively 1). Total fouls (fouled out): Three Rivers 13, Edwardsburg 18 (Wright). Records: Three Rivers 2-2 (1-1 Wolverine Conference), Edwardsburg 2-0 (1-0 Wolverine Conference).

**CASSOPOLIS 71, BANGOR 48**  
**Dec. 6 at Cassopolis**  
BANGOR (48): Julian Pullins 13, Carson Pillins 9, Alan Guzman-Ventura 2, Jaret McCoy 6, Tyler Caruso 17, Nick Hardester 1. Totals 15 13-23 48.  
CASSOPOLIS (71): Jaylen Pratt 0, Lucas Williams 26, Trevon Peterson-Evans 9, Ayden Gillam 13, Tyson West 15, Aarenn Buck-Hooper 5, Mason Nelson 3. Totals 27 8-12 71.  
Bangor 16 23 34 48  
Cassopolis 14 29 44 71  
3-point baskets: Bangor 5 (Pullins 4, Pillins 1), Cassopolis 9 (Williams 4, Gillam 3, Peterson-Evans 1, Nelson 1). Total fouls: Bangor 13, Cassopolis 16. Records: Bangor 0-2 (0-1 Southwest 10), Cassopolis 2-1 (1-0 Southwest 10).

**BENTON HARBOR 89, DOWAGIAC 38**  
**Dec. 7 at Dowagiac**  
BENTON HARBOR (89): Latrell Johnson 17, Jkwon Lewis 22, Desean Mathison 13, Myron Rice 14, Torey Wilson 7, Montell Hobbs 5, DaCorey McKinney 6, Marlon Williams 2, Damonee McBride 3. Totals 33 12-17 89.  
DOWAGIAC (38): Jamal Williams 0, Lamone Moore Jr. 2, Braylon Wade 6, Isaiah Fitchett 9, Brenden Green 3, Brayden Diaz 10, Artie Ruiz 0, Isaiah Weatherspoon 2, Chase Frazier 4, Riley McCaffery 2. Totals 13 10-18 38.  
Benton Harbor 23 46 73 89  
Dowagiac 14 26 32 38  
3-point baskets: Benton Harbor 11 (Rice 3, Johnson 2, Lewis 2, McKinney 2, T. Wilson 1, Hobbs 1), Dowagiac 2 (Fitchett 1, Wade 1). Total fouls: Benton Harbor 18, Dowagiac 13. Records: Benton Harbor 1-0 (1-0 Lakeland Conference), Dowagiac 0-3 (0-1 Lakeland Conference).

**NILES 63, VICKSBURG 55**  
**Dec. 10 at Niles**  
VICKSBURG (55): Grant Balazs 0, Mitchell Beyer

20, Gage Schiedel 4, Lucas Johnson 11, Austin Androsky 2, Jordan Diekman 6, Anthony Marchese 8, Braylen Vallier 4, Brad Youn 0. Totals 19 9-17 55.  
NILES (63):Quinton King Jr. 2, Brayden Favors 28, Brenden Olsen 19, Acie Kirtdoll 10, Derek Hill Jr. 3, Donovan Williams 1. Totals 24 11-19 63.  
Vicksburg 7 24 37 55  
Niles 20 29 45 63  
3-point baskets: Vicksburg 8 (Beyer 3, Johnson 2, Diekman 2, Schiedel 1), Niles 4 (Favors 1, Olsen 1, Kirtdoll 1, Hill Jr. 1). Total fouls (fouled out): Vicksburg 20 (Youn), Niles 12. Records: Vicksburg 2-2 (1-2 Wolverine Conference), Niles 2-2 (2-1 Wolverine Conference).

**PAW PAW 39, EDWARDSBURG 36**  
**Dec. 10 at Edwardsburg**  
PAW PAW (39): Elias Sonnenberg 2, Truman Brennan 15, Kaelien Tate 8, Caden Bowen 6, Chase Boff 3, Ayden Roth 5. Totals 13 8-20 39.  
EDWARDSBURG (36): Joe Shively 2, Brody Schimpa 6, Maverick Gates 3, Conor Solarek 14, Blaise Crist 8, Michael Wright 1, Matt Anders 2. Totals 13 7-10 36.  
Paw Paw 14 23 31 39  
Edwardsburg 8 18 30 36  
3-point baskets: Paw Paw 2 (Bowen 1, Roth 1), Edwardsburg 3 (Gates 1, Solarek 1, Crist 1). Total fouls: Paw Paw 16, Edwardsburg 19. Records: Paw Paw 4-0 (2-0 Wolverine Conference), Edwardsburg 2-1 (1-1 Wolverine Conference).

**ALLEGAN 74, DOWAGIAC 58**  
**Dec. 10 at Allegan**  
DOWAGIAC (58): Jamal Williams 15, Lemone Moore Jr. 2, Isaiah Fitchett 23, Caleb Smith 3, Brayden Diaz 2, Isaiah Weatherspoon 2, Chase Frazier 9, Riley McCaffery 2. Totals 24 1-9 58.  
ALLEGAN (74): Jeremiah Edwards-Tate 14, Brandon Thrash 16, L.J. Dial 12, Quentin Edwards Jr. 22, Bradyn Kosiorowski 2, Jessie Smith 8. Totals 31 10-15 74.  
Dowagiac 14 29 40 58  
Allegan 12 35 57 74  
3-point baskets: Dowagiac 9 (Fitchett 7, Smith 1, Williams 1), Allegan 2 (Dial 2). Total fouls: Dowagiac 14, Allegan 12. Records: Dowagiac 0-4, Allegan 4-1

**SCHOOLCRAFT 60, BRANDYWINE 21**  
**Dec. 10 at Schoolcraft**  
BRANDYWINE (21): J.J. Henry 0, Nylen Goins 5, Eliigha Burt 5, Will Hubbard 8, Ryder Richard 3, Jordan Hester 0, Emerson Gogley 0. Totals 8 3-6 21.  
SCHOOLCRAFT (60): Luke Rykse 7, Kodee Bienez 18, Tucker Walther 2, Ryley Bruner 2, Bryce Lambe 2, Jaden Reiber 3, Ty Goddard 13, Jimmy Miller 13. Totals 24 5-7 60.  
Brandywine 6 12 16 21  
Schoolcraft 16 32 46 60  
3-point baskets: Brandywine 2 (Burt 1, Richard 1), Schoolcraft 7 (Bienez 3, Rykse 1, Reiber, Goddard 1, Miller 1). Total fouls: Brandywine 6, Schoolcraft 11. Records: Brandywine 2-2, Schoolcraft 3-0

**BUCHANAN 66, BRIDGMAN 61**  
**Dec. 10 at Bridgman**  
BUCHANAN (66): Tyler Frame 8, Preston Payne 11, Liam McBeth 14, Karmine Brown 11, Jake Franklin 8, Logan Wiggins 8, Owen Thompson 4, Ari Johnson 2. Totals 23 6-12 66.  
BRIDGMAN (61): Ethan Stine 11, Teddy Ippel 3, Wade Haskins 13, Ty Adams 3, Chuck Pagel 18, Andrew Mabry 11, Jared Schroeder 2. Totals 22 8-13 61.  
Buchanan 15 31 49 66  
Bridgman 24 40 52 61  
3-point baskets: Buchanan 14 (McBeth 4, Payne 3, Brown 3, Wiggins 2, Franklin 2), Bridgman 9 (Pagel 4, Stine 3, Mabry 1, Ippel 1). Total fouls: Buchanan 15, Bridgman 13. Records: Buchanan 2-2, Bridgman 3-1  
Highlights: McBeth, Brown and Franklin each scored eight points in the second half as Buchanan rallied from a nine-point halftime deficit.

LOSS

Continued from page B1

three points.  
The Bobcats made eight field goals and 3-of-6 free-throw attempts.  
Bienz knocked down a pair of triples in the opening quarter as Schoolcraft raced out to a 16-6 advantage.  
The Eagles capitalized in transition by getting several steals at the defensive end in the second quarter when it outscored the Bobcats 16-6 and built itself a 32-12 halftime cushion.

It was more of the same during the second half with Schoolcraft beating Brandywine down the floor in transition and converting several layups. Jaden Reiber and Bienz both knocked down threes for Schoolcraft during the third stanza as the Eagles increased its advantage to 46-16 entering the fourth quarter.  
Knapp is excited though to see how much his team can improve though as the youthful Bobcats begin the Lakeland Conference schedule on Friday against Dowagiac.  
The lone two seniors on Brandywine's roster are Ma-



**SCOTT HASSINGER | LEADER PUBLICATIONS**  
**Sophomore Will Hubbard (4) gets inside position and tries to score on Schoolcraft's 6-foot-9 center Jimmy Miller (23).**  
son Simmons and Jordan Hester. They are joined by juniors Goins, Richard and

Devin Ferenczi, along with seven sophomores and one freshman.

GOLDEN

Continued from page B1

Broyles Award, which honors college football's top assistant coach.  
Notre Dame's 2024 defense is dominant and one of the most complete defenses in the country, ranking among the FBS' top teams. At the end of the regular season,

Notre Dame was first in team passing efficiency defense (94.10), first in turnovers gained (28), first in defensive touchdowns (6), third in scoring defense (13.6), fourth in passing yards allowed (157.9), fourth in interceptions (17), seventh in fumbles recovered (11), ninth in red zone defense (0.733), 10th in total defense (296.8) and 10th in first downs – defense (197).  
Golden coached his players to hold seven opponents to 125 or

fewer passing yards this season, the most instances among all FBS programs this regular season.  
Golden's defense has created game-changing opportunities for Notre Dame, as the Irish led the nation in turnovers gained (28) in the regular season. The Irish have earned 141 points off of turnovers this season, compared to their opponents' 34 total (+107 point differential).  
Notre Dame held opponents to

250 or fewer yards of offense in six games this regular season, tied for the second-most in FBS.  
The Irish have allowed one or fewer touchdowns on six occasions this season. In three of the games in which the Irish allowed just two touchdowns, the second touchdown was scored late in the fourth quarter, once the game was already put away for Notre Dame.  
This season, the Irish have held 10 opponents to 16 or fewer points,

and just one opponent has scored more than 30 points. That is the best since 2012 when Notre Dame held 10 opponents under 16 points and just one opponent (Alabama in championship game) reached 30 points.  
Notre Dame is tied for the most ranked wins of any FBS team this season with four. Notre Dame owned the best 2024 regular-season record against ranked teams in the FBS, going 4-0.

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### Public Notices

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In re the Guardianship of ASHBEN L. HIBBARD D.O.B. 08/15/12  
Minor Child.  
Case No.: 24-7-00198-39  
**NOTICE AND SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION** (Guardianship)

TO: James Berry, Alleged Father and Unknown Biological Father  
A Petition to Establish Guardianship under Title 13 RCW was filed on July 31, 2024; A Fact Finding hearing will be held on this matter on: January 22, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. at Yakima County Superior Court, Juvenile Division, 1728 Jerome Avenue, Yakima, WA 98902. YOU SHOULD BE PRESENT AT THIS HEARING. THE HEARING WILL DETERMINE IF THE COURT SHOULD ESTABLISH A TITLE 13 RCW GUARDIANSHIP AND APPOINT A GUARDIAN FOR THE ABOVE NAMED CHILD. A PETITION FOR ORDER APPOINTING TITLE 13 RCW GUARDIAN, IF GRANTED, COULD RESULT IN SUBSTANTIAL RESTRICTIONS TO THE RIGHTS OF THE PARENT(S), GUARDIAN(S), OR LEGAL CUSTODIAN(S). To request a copy of the Notice, Summons, and Title 13 RCW Guardianship Petition, call DCYF at (509) 225-6500. To view information about your rights in this proceeding, go to www.atg.wa.gov. DATED this 20 day of November, 2024

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